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REMARKS

Claims 2-19, 21-38 and 40-57 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 2, 4, 10, 11, 14, 21, 23, 29, 30 and 33 have been amended to clarify the claimed subject matter. Support for the claim amendments can be found in the application as originally filed, at, for example, page 2, lines 10-13, and in Fig. 14 (and corresponding discussion in the specification). Accordingly, claims 2-19, 21-38 and 40-57 are presented for reconsideration, with claims 4 and 23 being in independent form.

Claims 2-19, 21-38, and 40-57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as purportedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 2-19, 21-38, and 40-57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite.

By this Amendment, claims 2, 4, 10, 11, 14, 21, 23, 29, 30 and 33 have been amended to clarify the claimed subject matter.

It is contended in the Office Action that claim 4 and claim 23 do not clearly indicate whether the claims require (a) using a calculated table for changing the size of image data of an original image, or (b) only creation of a table for changing the size of image data of an original image, or (c) only calculation of the sharing ratio for use in changing the size of the image.

In response, applicant notes that current independent claims 4 and 23 do not refer to a "table" at all.

Further, it is noted that the sharing ratio is used to determine the sharing of processing resources as between a first processing way and a second processing way, each of said first and second processing ways being used for changing the size of the image data. Thus, the sharing ratio itself does not change the size of the image.

Applicant submits that independent claims 4 and 23 are patentably distinct from U.S.

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Patent No. 6,510,254 Nakami for at least the reasons set forth in the Remarks filed 5/29/2007.

Nakami, as understood by applicant, proposes an approach for image data interpolation such that the number of constituent picture elements thereof is increased.

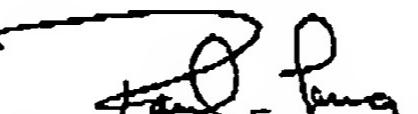
However, Nakami fails to teach or suggest that the adjustment of the sharing ratio is made in such a manner that the sharing ratio is gradually changed, the required time duration is calculated every time of the gradual changing of the sharing ratio, the thus-calculated required time duration is compared with the given time duration, and then, the sharing ratio at which the comparison result indicates that the required time duration corresponds to the given time duration is obtained, as provided by the subject matter of claim 4 of the present application. Independent claim 23 is patentably distinct from the cited art for at least similar reasons.

In view of the amendments to the claims and remarks hereinabove, Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant earnestly solicits the allowance of the application.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required in connection with this response and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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